

## House Resolution 46 - Introduced

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 46

BY HEATON, HANSON, KEARNS, COHOON, KLEIN, and SANDS

1 A Resolution to recognize the Mount Pleasant Mental  
2 Health Institute on the sesquicentennial anniversary  
3 of its founding.

4 WHEREAS, in 1855, the newly formed state of Iowa was  
5 struggling to provide the amenities, facilities, and  
6 services that a state owes its citizens; and

7 WHEREAS, in that year, Iowa began construction of a  
8 facility to house the mentally ill; and

9 WHEREAS, built at a cost of \$400,000, the facility,  
10 then called the Iowa Lunatic Asylum, admitted its first  
11 patient on February 26, 1861; and

12 WHEREAS, although that original name seems harsh to  
13 modern ears, the asylum embodied the latest thinking in  
14 humane patient care and treatment, and was one of the  
15 first institutions built on the "Kirkbride Plan"; and

16 WHEREAS, decades passed, treatments improved, and  
17 the old asylum was renamed the Mount Pleasant State  
18 Hospital and similar facilities were built throughout  
19 the state; and

20 WHEREAS, today the old asylum is long closed, and  
21 the Mount Pleasant Mental Health Institute provides  
22 Twenty-first Century inpatient care for psychiatric and  
23 substance abuse problems; and

24 WHEREAS, at the Institute, the Center for  
25 Psychiatric Care is accredited by the Centers for  
26 Medicare and Medicaid Services, while the Iowa  
27 Residential Treatment Center is licensed by the Iowa  
28 Department of Public Health; NOW THEREFORE,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
2 That the House of Representatives honors the long  
3 tradition of patient care at the Mount Pleasant Mental  
4 Health Institute and congratulates the Institute on its  
5 sesquicentennial anniversary.